FINAL REPORT

19960434

STRATEGIC PROPOSAL FOR THE REDUCTION OF REGULATORY BARRIERS TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AGBIOTECH INDUSTRY IN SASKATCHEWAN

April 2001
Funded by the Agri-Food Innovation Fund

Prepared by: Ag-West Biotech Inc.

AGRI-FOOD INNOVATION FUND

Canada

Saskatchewan

102-04938/

Final Technical Report for AGRI-FOOD INNOVATION FUND
Project# 96000434
Project Title: Programs for the Removal of Barriers to Agbiotech Development

Summary

The strategic proposal for the reduction of regulatory barriers to the development of the agbiotech industry in Saskatchewan has met and exceeded it's objective. These objectives were mainly to increase the awareness and presence of the Saskatchewan agbiotech capabilities and perspectives at the international level. In addition, be at the forefront of the international regulatory forum. Ag-West Biotech Inc. has developed an extensive on-line interactive web site to deliver international regulatory issues to the local agbiotech community in exchange for their perspective and input through consultations. Ag-West Biotech has: Participated with Codex Alimentarius, has had a voice in the development of the Biosafety Protocol, has developed alliances with Japan, China, Latin America and the EU. Furthermore, Ag-West Biotech Inc. has initiated capacity building in Argentina and Chile. Ag-West Biotech Inc. has hosted international experts to share current international policies as well as future developments. The latest example is the "Convergence of Global Regulatory Affairs- It's Potential Impact on International Trade and Public Perception" conference hosted by Ag-West Biotech Inc. on March 19-20, 2001. This conference marked the final expenditure of all AFIF funds awarded to Ag-West Biotech Inc. and the completion of both AFIF projects (# 96000433 and # 96000434). Overall, this project has increased the profile of Ag-West Biotech as a National leader in the area of global regulatory policy. We believe the Saskatchewan agbiotech community has also benefited from this project through increased awareness and participation in the regulatory process as well as through increased visibility on the international stage.